The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1074. WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1931 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 21, NO. 35.

Men do less than they ought unless they do all that they can.—Carlyle.

Labor-Displacing Machinery Increases

The executives of railroad companies and industrial corporations have laid off millions of workers because of reduced business and earnings.

They have also replaced hundreds of thousands of workers with machinery.

Nevertheless, they are using a considerable portion of their depleted income to install additional labor-displacing machinery, the inevitable result of which will be thousands of more workers added to the jobless army now nearing 7,000,000.

This was the outstanding revelation made by Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, in his testimony before the La Follette special subcommittee of the Senate of the United States Congress which is studying unemployment for a National Economic Council.

According to authentic statements by the executives of the railroad labor organizations, the managers of the railroads have installed machinery during the last few years to take the place of 250,000 railway workers.

The same revolutionary process of substituting the "iron man" for human beings in the production and distribution of wealth has taken place in all other industries.

It is not an exaggeration to say that a large part of the present unemployed army are jobless because of the refusal of employers generally to adjust the hours of labor in accordance with the increased wealth producing capacity of the workers under machine production.

Mr. Willard stated that as president of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad he had eliminated much shop maintenance work and decreased the number of full time employes from 60,000 to 41,000.

He then declared that the economic pressure of the business situation tends to increase technological improvements and consequently technological unemployment.

In plain language this phraseology means that our railway executives and business executives generally after having replaced hundreds of thousands of workers with machines in the last few years now propose to continue the slaughter of the workers' rights, by using machines, although we already have an army of unemployed so large that it constitutes a social menace.

An examination of the trade journals devoted to the labor-displacing machinery confirms Mr. Willard's statement. Concerns engaged in making the machinery report a relative large volume of sales.

United States Factories in Foreign Lands

In a survey of American industrial establishments abroad, the New York Trust Company estimates that American capitalists now control more than 2,000 branch factories in foreign countries.

The factories were located abroad, the survey says, to avoid United States tariff rates. It should have added that one of the major purposes was also to enable the American owners to employ low-wage foreign workers whose entrance into the United States was and is barred by the immigration restriction law.

The survey claims that the introduction by our capitalists of American labor methods—by which is meant time and motion study systems, bonus schemes, and other devices to screw a larger amount of work out of Labor—increases the productivity of the foreign workers.

It also states that because of American labor methods of forcing a larger output from labor, "wage standards are being raised and living conditions bettered" in foreign countries so fortunate as to have been dosed with United States factories.

From one end of Europe to the other there has been for a definite period a determined and frequently successful move among employers to reduce wages.

In some countries the wage slashes are effected by governmental decree.

In other countries the same result is achieved by sectional and general lockouts. In still others unsuccessful strikes bring the same result.

Throughout Europe, the organized labor movement has been engaged for years in a bitter fight to maintain the living standards of the workers against the determination of employers to drive wages down to the subsistence point.

In view of these well-known facts, it is not inappropriate to ask the author of the New York Trust Company's survey where he obtained the information which warranted the statement that the standards and conditions are "being raised" in foreign countries either as the result of planting American-owned factories there or for any other reason.

The exhibition of any industrial country in the world today with rising wage standards and rising living standards of the workers would be a most imposing spectacle.

American Fascist Wage Cutters

There is a well-defined conviction that many of our industrial wage cutting overlords view not only with complacency but approval Mussolini's Fascist dictatorship in Italy.

This is true despite the fact that on more than one occasion competent representatives of Fascism have declared that the Italian system is diametrically opposed to our fundamental institutions and seeks their destruction wherever they exist.

Take the 10 per cent wage cut for Government employes so strenuously advocated by William R. Wood, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee in the last Congress, and the same cut either made or proposed by many of our corporations.

This scheme to reduce living standards did not originate in the United States. It was midwifed by Mussolini.

In a recent article describing what he alleges to be Italy's recovery from the international business depression through wage reductions, Mussolini says:

"Let us consider the world crisis. Despite Italy's lack of resources she is not worse off than most nations.

"When the Italian Government discovered that it was spending more than it could afford to spend, promptly and resolutely it made a horizontal cut in wages of all State employes. This step was followed by the entire nation.

"The general acceptance of a 10 per cent reduction hastened the end of the Italian crisis, and, when the world resumption begins, Italy will find herself in a favored position."

It is more than doubtful if Mussolini has seen the "end of the Italian crisis." Recent figures on unemployment there show that the jobless are increasing rapidly. According to statistics furnished by the National Social Insurance Fund, 493,273 workers were registered as unemployed at the end of August, compared with 637,531 at the end of July, and 375,548 at the end of August, 1930. In addition, 30,636 persons were partially unemployed at that date, as compared with 25,821 at the end of July and 24,056 at the end of August, 1930. Moreover, the 493,273 registered jobless receiving government relief are Fascists and consist only politically acceptable unemployed. Responsible authorities estimate the actual number of Italian jobless to be twice that number.

In Italy as in other countries with unemployment insurance, the insurance benefits do not permit the jobless to have a decent standard of living. Even if a million workless workers may not be a crisis to Mussolini, no more than 6,000,000 jobless constitute a crisis to his political and industrial shadows in the United States. But to the unemployed it is the greatest crisis they have ever experienced.

ARCHITECTS DESTITUTE FROM UNEMPLOYMENT

New York, Nov. 7.—The number of destitute jobless architects is increasing rapidly, according to the unemployment committee for unemployed architects set up here by the American Institute of Architects. Over 1,000 jobless men already on the unemployed registration list.

The committee seeks the owners of country real estate who want improvements made at half the cost they paid during prosperous times.

Warren Matthews, the New York architect has proposed the plan, says that under this arrangement $6,000 worth of repairs would be completed for approximately $2,500. The owner would provide the plans for the architect to live, the materials, and a small sum of money for the worker. In return he would receive the services of skilled professional men."

"The unemployed," Mr. Matthews added, "include not only architects but architectural draftsmen and executives, building designers and modelers, and specification writers. They are all men of thorough training and experience, with a certain mechanical genius. Many are graduates of the leading architectural schools of America and Europe."

OCTOBER DIVIDENDS REACH $224,023,007

New York, Nov. 7.—Nine hundred and twenty-four corporations declared $224,023,007 dividends in October, according to a compilation made by the New York Times. In October, a year ago, 1,159 corporations declared $312,102,802 dividends.

There was an increase in the amount of dividends declared by department stores in October, the figures being $3,742,836 against $2,529,516 in the same month in 1930. All other groups showed reductions.

B. & O. ASSISTS IDLE AND PART TIME EMPLOYES

Baltimore, Nov. 7.—Department heads of the local office of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad were notified today to deduct any money from the wages of employes who are purchasing homes through the relief department of the company unless the employes have worked more than half a month.

The company also issued an order to all freight agents not to sell unclaimed foodstuffs in the freight houses throughout the country, but to distribute the edibles free to furloughed employes.

Couzens Predicts Government Will Act Against Low Pay and Unemployment

Washington, Nov. 7.—The urgent necessity of stabilizing the income of the workers by stabilizing employment, the prediction that the Government would have to intervene for the protection of Labor through the equalization of wealth and concentration in few hands, characterized a radio address by Senator Couzens of Michigan.

Jobless Problem Is Permanent

"Even prior to 1929," he said, "there was a fair growing volume of unemployment due to technological and managerial improvement or efficiency in industry. Nothing has happened on the horizon that is at all convincing that we do not have a permanent unemployment problem to contend with. This will be true unless ways and means are devised to greatly increase the consumptive power of our millions of citizens or greatly reduce the numbers of hours worked, or both."

Stabilize Workers' Income

"It has been my view," Senator Couzens continued, "that if industry assumes the same responsibility for the workers that they do for the welfare of their plant, they will be able to stabilize industry and the income of the workers.

"If there is unemployment or workers of a stabilized income—I mean to those willing to work, of course—there will be no difficulty in maintaining good business. Whether the stabilization of the income of the workers is to be accomplished by industry itself is entirely up to industry.

"The Government has a responsibility to its citizens, to all of them, not only to part of them.

Business Leaders Bankrupt

"Conditions today seem to indicate the bankruptcy of business genius and leadership in this country. The business leaders are raging lions when the going is good, but let a storm come and they take refuge inside their storm cellars of wealth and tell those on the outside not to be alarmed, because the country has always pulled through and will do so again. This doctrine is the most dangerous one that I have seen or had dinned into the present depression."

Menace of Wealth Concentration

"Unless we find a method to prevent the accumulation of wealth in a few hands," Senator Couzens went on, "conditions are certain to become bad again, worse again, and eventually the cancer will kill society.

Government Effort Foreseen

"If these supermen of business will have vision enough to understand that condition and be interested in remedying the ills, we may look to the future with confidence.

"Several small and medium-sized industries have devised ways and means to stabilize their production or the income of their workers, because they have had the will to do so.

"If they do not, Government will be required to engage in activities that heretofore have been unthought of."

BROTHERHOODS URGE RAILWAY HOURS CUT

Washington, Nov. 7.—The executives of the Railroad Brotherhoods of the machinists and Firemen, and chairman of the conference of railway labor leaders, stated that the railroad brotherhoods have no objections to the proposed consolidation of the southern railroads, provided the interests and rights of employes and their families and homes are safeguarded.

"But if the consolidation means," he said, "that several hundred thousand men are to be thrown on the labor market, without any effort to provide the slightest possibility of finding jobs, we are very much opposed to it.

"We believe in economy and efficiency, so long as we do not have to pay the penalties of the misery of the 4 Horses into effect."

A. F. of L. Merger Policy

The position on railroad consolidation taken by the executives of the railway brotherhoods is in accordance with the policy adopted by the 1931 convention of the American Federation of Labor. The convention adopted the report of the railway mergers made by the Executive Council which was selected by the President to report the Council said: "Railway employes organize their local lines to protect their jobs and pour into them all their work capacities. Changes in the industry must take into consideration the consequences to these worker investments as well as to communities."

FEDERAL FUNDS NECESSARY TO FEED AND CLOTHE IDLE

Washington, Nov. 7.—An emphatic warning that Federal appropriations would have to be made for relief, and that the unemployed featured the address of William Hodson, New York City welfare commissioner, before the Washington city-wide social work conference.

"We are facing the possibility and probability of a larger measure of human suffering this Winter than ever before in the history of this country," Hodson declared. "Unless we can provide the funds for relief, either through private or public financing, we shall face a crisis of national disaster that is quite unthinkable.

"I hope, therefore, that you social workers are not going to take the attitude that the question of Federal aid is not your concern. Instead, I hope you are going to have convictions on this issue. We have come to the point where we must do something besides the thing ought to be done. By making this decision we will have assumed the leadership that the country needs so much today."

VIRGINIA STAGGERS ROAD WORK FOR IDLE RELIEF

Richmond, Va., Nov. 7.—Twenty-five hundred unemployed workers in Virginia will be employed by the Virginia Department of Highways during the coming Winter by "staggering" work. There will be two divisions of workers, each employed for alternate weeks. Head Highway Commissioner Henry G. Shirley announced.

Mr. Shirley said the plan will go into operation November 16 and that after that date contracts awarded will require that contractors, as well as the State, shall use the alternate week system.

Preference will be given to laborers who are jobless, Shirley said, and social agencies in areas in which there is highway work in progress will be asked to cooperate in placing workers who are in greatest need.

MINIMUM WAGE SCALE FOR MINNESOTA PROJECT

St. Paul, Minn., Nov. 7.—The State Building Commission adopted a resolution providing for the incorporation of a minimum wage scale in the plans and specifications for the new $1,500,000 State Capitol building, the cost of which will be opened November 17.

The minimum wage for structure will be paid the prevailing wage scale in St. Paul as determined by the Minnesota labor commissioner.

JOBLESS WORKER KILLS FAMILY

New York, Nov. 7.—Despondent at the loss of his job, Joseph Kanzius, a waiter, killed his wife, their widowed daughter and her 4-year-old son, and then committed suicide by inhaling illuminating gas. The daughter was a teacher in the public schools.

CHESAPEAKE & OHIO OPPOSES WAGE CUT

Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 7.—The officials of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad do not favor cutting the wages of railway employes either by so-called voluntary action or by any other means,

This statement is clearly proven by an article in the current issue of the railroad's magazine. After discussing the French franc curve in connection with railway expenditures, the article said:

"The last item of expense is labor.

"The rates of pay, being fixed by solemn contracts between the men and the roads, have not been reduced.

40 Per Cent Work Part Time

"But the number employed has required many less men, and it has been estimated that fully 40 per cent of the railroad men are working on part time.

"No sensible person would voluntarily propose to reduce their pay.

"It would simply mean that the families of 1,500,000 men would have less to spend on the necessities of life. Less of those necessities would be manufactured. Even more would have less work to do.

"If labor is permitted an increase in freight rates would have been partially or in some instances entirely offset or rendered, which never should have been reduced. It would have permitted railroads and their employes to spend money."

Wage Cutters Rebuked

From these statements it is clear that Chesapeake & Ohio officials believe that railway labor has already suffered in substantial degree from partial or complete unemployment, and that they have no sympathy with the howl in favor of further reducing the living standards of railway workers put up by some railroad executives, with additional wage cut propaganda contributed by such reactionary trade journals as the Railway Age and such equally reactionary stockholders' megaphones as the Wall Street Journal.

Girls Refuse Strike Work; Company Closes Mills

Maynard, Mass., Nov. 7.—Eighteen girls employed in the Assabet Mills owned by the American Woolen Company refused to do work brought here from the company's mills in Lawrence, Mass., where a strike is in progress against a wage cut. Officials of the mills here closed the plant.

At a union mass meeting the workers decided to refuse to do the disregarded girls and voted not to accept Lawrence mill work in any department.

Officials of the American Woolen Company's interests considered the Assabet Mills closed and gave instructions to have the machinery transferred. It was transferred to other of the company's mills. The Assabet Mills employed about 650 persons.

BALTIMORE & OHIO CUTS SALARIES 10 PER CENT

Baltimore, Md., Nov. 7.—All officers and employes of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad received a pay cut of ten per cent.

The cut does not affect the employes of the railroad who are under the jurisdiction of the Railroad Labor Law, workers at trainmen, conductors, and engineers. Its practical effect will be to curtail the salaries of those in official positions, rather than to make a saving by reducing the pay of the men at the bottom.

The railroad law provides that the wages of those under its control cannot be changed, unless they agree to it, without the consent of a board of arbitration, one to be selected by the President and opposite to him.

Last year the railroad law a demand by the railroad executives for a wage reduction would take months for its determination because the railroad brotherhoods would resort to arbitration, which would ordinarily be an involved and lengthy affair.

ITALIAN FASCISTS DECREE FURTHER WAGE SLASHES

Rome, Italy, Nov. 7.—The central committee of the corporative system, which controls Italian industry, acted on the advisability of further wage reductions modified with four reservations.

The reservations provide that industrial undertakings which are not in a healthy basis shall not cut wages, that further reductions must be accompanied by simultaneous reduction in other production costs, that the cuts must be within reasonable limits, and that they must be the result of agreements between the regular labor and capital organizations.

The last provision gives added power to the labor syndicates, which will treat with those employers who propose wage reductions. The labor syndicates also have the right to appeal to Fascist labor courts and to the last instance to Premier Mussolini himself.

About a year ago there was a general cut of 12 per cent in the pay of all State employes and also in the army and navy force and the diplomatic corps.

FORD CUTS WAGES

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 7.—Henry Ford issued a decree cutting the minimum wage of Ford employes from $7 to $5 a day.

At the time of the stock market crash in October, 1929, Ford declared that the way to insure prosperity was to raise wages rather than lower them. He advanced the pay of his own employes from $6 to $7 and simultaneously placed them on half time or less, which would have been most of the time since. He made the $7 a day plan his cost the Ford Motor Company over $37,000,000 a day.

A. J. COOK, BRITISH LABOR LEADER, DIES

London, Nov. 7.—A. J. Cook, secretary of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain for a number of years, died here after an operation.

Mr. Cook was born in 1884. He was first a soldier, and was brought up by army barracks, and preached in the streets when only 17 years of age. He joined the Independent Labor Party in 1906, and was turned out of chapel owing to his socialism.

He joined the miners' union in early life, was elected a member of the executive committee of the South Wales Miners' Federation in 1919, became a member of the executive committee of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain in 1924, and shortly after was elevated to the position of secretary of the Federation, which now has 600,000 members.

WARSAW CITY WORKERS STRIKE

Warsaw, Poland, Nov. 7.—Municipal employes here struck on the job in protest against the irregular payment of their salaries.

THREAT OF CLOSING THEATRE IN PHILA. MUSICIANS' STRIKE

Philadelphia, Nov. 7.—William Goldman, general manager of the Stanley-Warner Company, threatened to close the Mastbaum Theatre and show only pictures at another theatre unless the musicians' union submitted to Goldman's terms as to the number of musicians the theatre should employ.

Last year the Mastbaum Theatre employed 85 musicians. Goldman insisted on reducing the number. The union declined to accept the reduction, but offered to arbitrate the matter. Goldman said he preferred closing the theatre to either arbitration or acceding to the union's desires without arbitration.

3,326,152 CHILDREN IN COMPETE FOR JOBS

Chicago, Nov. 7.—Approximately 3,326,152 children 7 to 17 years of age are competing for jobs with 8,000,000 breadwinners in search of work in the United States, declared Courtney Dinwiddie, secretary of the National Child Labor Committee, at the first day's session of the Chicago regional White House conference on child welfare. He claimed this condition is one of the weaknesses of our social order in the face of the present crisis.

"At last," Dinwiddie said, "we are faced with the realization that we should make the inadequacy of our preparation for serving the needs of the immature young of our population apparent even to the most dense among us.

"When we see this great section of our child life and youth thrown into competition with the nation's breadwinners, the situation becomes so obvious that even the conservative join in or at least fall to object to the back-to-school movement."

750,000 RAILWAYMEN HAVE LOST THEIR JOBS

Washington, Nov. 7.—During the business depression railroad executives, acting for owners of the railroads, have removed 500,000 railway employes from the pay roll.

In addition, the railroad executives have used labor-displacing machinery to put 250,000 railway workers on the jobless army.

This is the tabloid picture of the economic conditions under which railway employes now find themselves, W. N. Doak, president of the Brotherhood of Engineers and Firemen, in his testimony before the La Follette subcommittee of the Senate considering the advisability of establishing a National Economic Council.

Mr. Robertson said the number of railway employes in the last few years had dropped from 2,000,000 to 1,250,000, and that the latter figure would probably be jobless now if the amount of availlable work had not been prorated.

He said railway employes had made proposals to the railway executives for stabilizing work, but the executives had turned a deaf ear to the employes and had refused to cooperate in any way. His own organization, he explained, had rejected no cooperative proposals looking to retaining rendered jobless by technological advances.

He favored a National Economic Council under Government control to assist in balancing production against consumption.

He declared that Labor now has no voice in the management of industrial enterprises, and expressed the view that conferences between representatives, of the workers, investors, operators and the public would be very helpful in equitably adjusting industrial relations.

Permanent Sharing of Work Urged by Governor La Follette

Madison, Wis., Nov. 7.—Whatever work there is to be done, whether it be much or little, should be divided among all the workers.

This method of providing jobs for the 6,000,000 unemployed, a large proportion of whom are now dependent on private and public charity for their right to live, was the outstanding feature of an address by Gov. Philip F. La Follette to a group of Wisconsin industrial and business men.

He also urged the equitable sharing of available work as a permanent system to end the jobless anomaly of machine production.

"The principle provides," the Governor said, "that we will not permit to grow up in our society a system which has half of us at work and half of us walking the streets."

Frank Dealing Necessary

"I am convinced," the Governor said, "that a continuation of the policy of failing to deal frankly with the public is unwise. The needs of the people are individually as fully aware of the seriousness as any of us. It is dangerous because the situation is serious, and it requires intelligent and courageous action.

"We have passed the point where our economic system will resume its normal functions without action.

Government Action Threatened

"I hope that voluntary cooperation of all our citizens will be equal to the emergency, but if it refuses to do the minimum necessity for governmental action, that action will be taken as we can make it there must be—not a year from now, but in the immediate future."

"One clear gain from our depression," Governor La Follette continued, "has been the acceptance by responsible industrial and business leaders of their social responsibilities in the administration of their business properties.

"Changes in technology and fluctuations in the business cycle must be dealt with by industry as a responsible self-governing agency.

Employers Take Machinery Benefits

"We can no longer proceed with the idea that technological changes in industry which displace hundreds of thousands of men can be entirely ignored as of no public concern.

"I am not here saying that it is either desirable or possible to prevent, or should attempt to discourage socially and economically sound technological improvements.

"I do mean that in considering a technological improvement there is no ultimate social or economic gain if the manpower displaced from private industry is shifted to public or private charity.

Tax Those Best Able to Pay

"We must find some basic principle that will act as a guide in the problem of machine production. We have such a principle in relation to taxation; namely, that taxes should be levied in accordance with ability to pay them.

"Wisconsin's definite attempt to apply that principle to the operation of its government during the past 20 years enables this State to face the present emergency with a financial condition, with less of a tax burden upon those least able to bear it, than any other State in America today.

"We must find some basic principle to supply to this problem of both cyclical and technological unemployment, it would be an outstanding achievement.

Share Work Among All

"Such a principle has been suggested as a result of the conferences that have been held during the past year. That principle succinctly stated is this: That as an economic society we should accept the standard that whatever work there is to be done, shall be done by all of us; if we have a large volume, we all can work more; if we have a smaller volume, we all will do less; but that we will not permit to grow up in our society a system which has half of us at work and half of us walking the streets.

"The application of this principle in times such as these means that those who are now fully employed would have to share that employment with others less fortunate.

Hardship for Those Fully Employed

"In many instances it would involve genuine hardship for those who are fully employed. But in this matter, no matter how grave or complicated, will by no means be as grave or serious as the difficulties that are bound to result in our whole economic life if we do nothing."

Plan Has Virtues

"In this period those that have ready cash, those that have work, those that have income will be required to share with those that have none.

"If industry and business, including both the employer and the employe, will whole-heartedly cooperate in the application of this principle to the employment situation, we can make a sufficient dent in the total number of unemployed that a sane and conservative public works program would definitely approximate giving some employment to all of those who are ready, willing and able to work.

Contract and Expand Hours

"I fully recognize that you cannot impose upon industry and business the ridiculous and exasperating short-term hours of employment so as to stabilize the employment for the number of employes in a given industry and occupation without in turn enabling industry and business to expand as intelligently the demand and to enforce reasonable wages and conditions among the various branches of a given industry.

Solves Machinery Problem

"I am in favor of adoption of this principle of the contract and expansion of hours by industries and occupations so as to provide employment for all of those normally employed. I am in favor of it not only because it results in a practicable problem we face in the present emergency, but it solves the permanent problem that is the only sound method that I see for meeting the menace of technological unemployment, or unemployment produced by the displacement of men by machines.

Will Benefit Those Now Employed

"While people now employed may hesitate at first to agree to a shortening of their total hours of employment, I am certain that on second thought they will realize that from the point of view of understood that it aims at eliminating the menace of fear of the future, and eventual unemployment by machine displacement.

Social Results Test Machine Production

"If this principle is to be adopted, it must be adopted for general application in good times as well as poor; it must afford protection for the future as well as the present; and adoption on such a basis it gives assurance to both the employe and to society generally that machine production will not be allowed to contested not alone on the basis of individual profit, but likewise on the basis of the total ultimate cost to society as a whole."

NEW YORK LABOR BANK IS CLOSED BY STATE

New York, Nov. 7.—The Federation Bank and Trust Company, founded by the late Peter J. Brady, labor leader and aviation enthusiast, was closed by Joseph I. Broderick, State Superintendent of Banks, bec. se of non-liquidity and depreciation of assets.

Mr. Brady had been president of the bank since its establishment in 1913 until his death in September. The bank's deposits on September 23 were $12,170,-000. Its capital was subscribed about 30,000.

The affairs of the bank were taken over by the Manufacturers Trust Company under an agreement made by the bank to pay the depositors at once up to 66 2-3 per cent of their funds. Additional payments will be made as the liquidation proceeds.

It is understood that eventually the depositors may get the full amount of their deposits.

Matters familiar with the situation said the bank had considerable sound assets. Among these are a block of stock and bond portfolio that was hard hit by the market decline, but its capital funds were gone.

5 COTTON PICKERS KILLED

Marion, Ark., Nov. 7.—A truck loaded with cotton pickers overturned in a ditch near here, killing five persons and injuring a score. A girl 7 years old and a baby 8 months old were among the killed.

Occupants of the truck had been picked up in adjoining Mississippi counties and were being taken to a plantation 25 miles north of Marion to pick cotton.

MARTIAL LAW PUTS CRUDE OIL PRICE UP 15 CENTS

Tulsa, Okla., Nov. 7.—Officials of the Continental Oil Company advanced the price of 24 grades of crude 15 cents a barrel. The new price was immediately met by other companies.

The price advance was brought about by an interstate agreement on proration of output by the officials of the States of Oklahoma and Texas and enforced by martial law.

SOVIET UNION PAYS $6,000,000 ON OLD CZARIST DEBTS

New York, Nov. 7.—The Union of Socialist Soviet Republics deposited $6,-000,000 in the Chase National Bank here to pay interest on bonds of the Czar which owed to leading manufacturers of agricultural machinery, it was stated that the Soviet Government had not requested any moratorium or special arrangement regarding Soviet debts in the United States.

CLEVELAND UNION PAINTERS VOTE DOWN WAGE REDUCTION

Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 7.—Union painters here voted down a proposed voluntary wage cut of $2 per day.

WOOD CUTTING FOR IDLE

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 7.—Reducing old timber to firewood and furniture size for sael to the public has been introduced here as an unemployment aid. Sixty men from the Fisher Lodge for the homeless sawed and chopped 25 cordsin the first day, all of which was readily sold.

Banker Economist Urges 5-Day Week as Just Remedy for Unemployment

Washington, Nov. 7.—The unemployment problem can and should be solved at once by reducing the length of the work week to five days of eight hours each for all wage and salary earners included in the U. S. Census classification of "gainfully employed," declares Norman E. Towson, economist of the Washington Loan and Trust Company, in a bulletin on "Unemployment; Leisure and Its Utilization."

Economic Independence

Mr. Towson holds that the real goal of man's effort is economic independence, and that the object of industry hence is to enjoy leisure. The leisure of the modern man is all, obtained by labor-saving machinery and other labor eliminating methods of modern industrial practice, not for a few rich and voluntarily idle parasites above living on profits and an army of compulsory jobless below living on charity.

In support of his contention that shortening the hours of work for all now employed is a practicable way of getting the unemployment question, Mr. Towson says:

Six-Day Week for 42 Million

"There are normally 46 million workers gainfully employed in American industry. The present number of unemployed is only estimated at six million, leaving the number of those now employed at 42 million.

Five-Day Week for 50 Million

"Let us say that 42 million workers employed eight hours a day, six days a week are now employed forty hours per week. If their employment were educated to eight hours a day, and five days a week, the same number of workers would produce only 1,680 million hours' work per week.

"At that rate would require 50.4 million workers to perform the same amount of work, or more than the total number employed before the problem of unemployment became such an acute problem.

"Thus there would be made allowance for increasing population and increasing technical efficiency before the problem again becomes important."

Mr. Towson's estimate that the 40-hour week would provide work for the 6,000,000 jobless is quite close to the estimate of the American Federation of Labor that there is but 35 hours' work per week for all workers, employed and unemployed, which would take care of present domestic consumer demand and export commodities.